(c) Formation work has been partly completed in 22 km (16 km from Tamluk end and 6 km from Digha end). 6 nos. minor bridges and the substructure of one major bridge over river Haldi have also been completed. Tenders for balance earthwork, minor/major bridges, ballast supply and permanent way are being invited and will be finalised expeditiously.

(d) and (e) The tentative schedule of completion of the project is December, 2000.

Ban on sale of Cigarettes and Beedis on platforms

1091. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to ban the sale of cigarettes and beedis on railway platforms and passenger trains; and

(b) if so, by when it would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) Sale of Cigarettes/beedis on railway platforms/premises and in trains has been banned with effect from 5th June, 1999.

Renovation of Railway Stations in Gujarat

1092. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating construction of new buildings for railway stations in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of railway stations modernised/renovated during the last three years and those proposed for renovation during the year 1999-2000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Work of construction of new station buildings at Gandhinagar and Anand have been sanctioned costing Rs. 46.11 lakh and Rs. 39.58 lakh respectively. The work at Anand has already commenced and the work at Gandhinagar will commence after finalisation of plans and estimates.